

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on March 31, 2005, claims 1, 2, 4-6, 11, 12, 14, 15, and 18-23 were rejected in view of the prior art references of the U.S. Patent of Kazama No. 4,014,596, and the U.S. Patent of Fisher, et al. No. 6,252,321. Claims 3, 7-10, 13, 16, 17, 24, and 25 were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Previously pending independent claims 1 and 18 have been cancelled by the amendments presented herein. In addition, previously objected to claims 3, 7, 13, and 24 have been amended into independent form. It is therefore respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 3, 7, 13, and 24 are all allowable over the prior art of record.

Previously pending dependent claims 2, 11, 22, and 23 have been cancelled. Dependent claims 5 and 6 have been amended to depend from new independent claim 3. It is therefore submitted that claims 5 and 6 are allowable over the prior art.

Dependent claim 4 has been amended to depend from new independent claim 7. It is therefore submitted that dependent claim 4 and dependent claims 8-10 that previously depended from claim 7 are all allowable over the prior art of record.

Dependent claims 12 an 14-17 have all been amended herein to depend from new independent claim 13. It is therefore submitted that dependent claims 12 and 14-17 are all allowable over the prior art of record.

Dependent claims 19, 20, and 21 have all been amended to depend from new independent claim 24. It is therefore submitted that dependent claims 19, 20, 21, and 25 which previously depended from claim 24 are all allowable over the prior art of record.

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments presented herein, the application is in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Thompson Coburn LLP

By:

Joseph M. Rolnicki Reg. No. 32,653 One US Bank Plaza

St. Louis, MO 63101-1693

(314) 552-6286